



COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday December 09, 2020
02:00 PM

PRESENT:

Councillors John Wiens and Wendy Cheropita, Members: Vicky Downes, Nicole Cripps, Janice Johnston, Janet Trogdon, Rene Bertschi, Bette Anne James,

REGRETS:

STAFF:

Kevin Turcotte	Director (A), Operations
J.B. Hopkins	Supervisor of Parks
Bobbie-Jo Talarico	Administrative Assistant

OTHERS:

1. Call to Order

Chair Vicky Downes called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m

2. Adoption of Agenda

Moved by Bette Anne James that the agenda be adopted.

APPROVED

3. Conflict of Interest

No conflicts were declared at this time.

4. Previous Minutes

The Committee reviewed the minutes of October 14th, 2020.

5. Presentations

There were no presentations at this time.

6. Announcements

6.1 Co-ordination with the Horticultural Society:

Bette Anne has been in touch with the President and Vice-President to continue to be the liaison between the Town and the Horticultural Society.

6.2 CIB award criteria for re-entering annually for awards: Staff advised that we are awaiting a reply and will advise the committee when a response comes in. Staff advised CIB can re-enter the national competition for the winter lights display.

7. Correspondence

None

8. Business

8.1 Community Garden:

Expansion of garden is delayed but will be completed in the Spring. Donor recognition sign was discussed, an alternate garden tool with a plaque was decided upon.

A criteria for a major donor plaque will be discussed in the future. Staff are looking into several different options for a more permanent sign at the Garden, and bring it back to the committee. The Garden was in the Advance and in the Local for an end of the year media ad.

A discussion took place about a proposal from a local resident who wants to start a Community Garden on their property. It was decided that for legality matters the Town wouldn't be able to participate other than assisting with support ie. asking for volunteers or loaning tools.

Niagara Community Garden website was discussed.

Moved by Vicky Downes that our Community Garden joins this group's, website and map.

APPROVED.

8.2 Witness Tree project:

The working group gave an update on the progress of the project and the App and how in the future there is going to be an application on the app with criteria attached on how to submit a witness tree. The Chamber also advised they would assist in launching this project. Councillor Cheropita also advised we could contact the B&B Organization as well.

8.3 Bee house update:

A discussion regarding an update on pollinator boxes; the Community garden site

would not proceed due to concerns about the adjacent nursery school activity near the site. The recommendation was to use plant material to use in the garden or a separate garden to assist with pollination for the garden, Janice Johnston will work on getting a list together of the native plants for the next meeting. Material will be shared with Councillor Cheropita to share with the Library. This program will be initiated in the Spring.

8.4 Library Maker program:

The committee advised this program will be taken off of the CIB active projects as this is a separate program ran by the Library and doesn't met the CIB Terms of Reference.

8.5 Mississauga/Queen Street project:

Staff updated the committee that the project went to REFI, the Town has received responses and will be interviewing the groups who submitted interest next week.

Early in 2021 there will be a presentation to COTW.

Staff updated CIB of the scope of the project. The intention is to bring the awarded consultant on board in January and have a draft conceptual design brought to CIB and Council as well as a timeline.

8.6 Christmas decor update, Stroll and Parade:

Nicole Cripps gave an update from The Chamber, The Chamber and The Town worked together to get the lights in the trees up and all the displays together. The virtual candlelight stroll and ceremony went very well. A donation went to Newark Neighbours from the sales of the candles. Staff advised that the Town partnered with the VBA and they contributed to the lights for Christmas Tree in front of Town Hall, at the Virgil entrance sign there is a display also funded by the VBA. The Village Community Association won a Niagara Biennial award for their Christmas displays with their lighted bags. The Christmas parade now Santa around Town, will be Saturday at 9:30 am with a rain date of Sunday at 9:30 am. The winter display awards will be used in the submission for 2021. Staff advised CIB can re-enter the national competition for the winter lights display.

8.7 Financial Update/Budget review:

Staff discussed the financial budget with the committee.

8.8 Green roofs on buildings

Staff will consider this in the future.

The committee will consider this in the future for buildings in Town. The committee inquired if there is any government assistance or grant opportunities for home owners or the municipality, Staff suggested that there is an Environmental Advisory Committee that this project should be given too.

Moved by Councillor John Wiens that Green roofs on buildings be passed along to the

Environmental Advisory Committee for review and discussion, the CIB will assist if required.

APPROVED.

8.8 Active projects:

The committee wanted to list CIB's Active projects for future Agenda's.

Chatauqua Tree project

Adopt-a-Park

Voices of Freedom Park

Garden of the week

Hydro Box paintings

One Mile Creek Tree Planting

Tulip project in partnership with Rotary

Virgil Streetscape enhancement

9. New Business

9.1 Friends of Fort George garden:

Janet Trogdon discussed the Friends of Fort George garden with the committee. Staff asked for the committee to work on what their needs are and report back to the committee to see if CIB can assist.

9.2 Garden of the Week:

The committee discussed Garden of the Week for 2021; staff and the committee advised this project can be made virtual and we can have plan A and plan B. Will be discussed in the future. The committee also suggested including all garden styles into this program.

9.3 Water Fountain Update:

Staff are working with the Mayor's Youth Advisory Committee for further discussion.

10. Next Meeting Date

February 10, 2021 @ 2pm

11. Adjournment

ADJOURNMENT: 04:00 PM